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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

73552 7590 10/07/2008

Stolowitz Ford Cowger LLP
621 SW Morrison St
Suite 600
Portland, OR 97205

EXAMINER

THOMPSON, JAMES A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/998,519

11/27/2001

Shih-Zheng Kuo

9585-0117

5384

TITLE OF INVENTION: HIGH-RESOLUTION SENSING METHOD FOR SCANNER

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	01/07/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

73552 7590 10/07/2008

Stolowitz Ford Cowger LLP
621 SW Morrison St
Suite 600
Portland, OR 97205

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/998,519 11/27/2001 Shih-Zheng Kuo 9585-0117 5384

TITLE OF INVENTION: HIGH-RESOLUTION SENSING METHOD FOR SCANNER

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	01/07/2009

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
THOMPSON, JAMES A	2625	358-001500

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
- 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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73552	7590	10/07/2008	EXAMINER	
Stolowitz Ford Cowger LLP 621 SW Morrison St Suite 600 Portland, OR 97205			THOMPSON, JAMES A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2625	
DATE MAILED: 10/07/2008				

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 765 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 765 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/998,519

Examiner

James A. Thompson

Applicant(s)

KUO, SHIH-ZHENG

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 29 July 2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____. |

/Edward L. Coles/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed 29 July 2008, with respect to the rejections of the claims over the prior art have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of the claims over the prior art have been withdrawn. Applicant's present amendments to the claims overcome the previously cited prior art references. Further, Examiner has discovered no additional prior art which anticipates the presently amended claims and/or renders the presently amended claims obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Accordingly, the presently amended claims are deemed allowable over the prior art.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-27 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claim 1 recites a sensing method for a scanner. In the method, a first portion of a document is scanned by a first row of sensors and a second portion of a document, which is not adjacent to the first portion of the document, is scanned by a second row of sensors. Then, a third portion of a document is scanned by the first row of sensors and a fourth portion of a document is scanned by the second row of sensors. The third portion of the document partially overlaps the first portion of the document. The partially overlapped image data is used to produce a higher-resolution image data.

While there is related and similar prior art, Examiner has not discovered prior art which teaches this particular method of increasing the resolution of a scanner using lower resolution sensors. Johnson (US-5,483,053) modifies the resolution of the scanner by modifying the sampling intervals. However, a

Art Unit: 2625

portion of the document read by a row of sensors is not partially overlapped by a portion of the document that is later read by the same row of sensors. Shimizu (US-5,777,308) increases scanning resolution by using an angled sampling. However, as with Johnson, there is no portion of the document read by a row of sensors that is partially overlapped by a portion of the document that is later read by the same row of sensors. In Boyd (US-6,166,831), the resolution is increased by spatially offsetting successive rows of sensors. Boyd also does not teach that a portion of the document read by a row of sensors that is partially overlapped by a portion of the document that is later read by the same row of sensors.

The closest relevant prior art does not fully teach each and every limitation of claim 1, nor has Examiner found prior art which fully teaches claim 1, either alone or by combination. Accordingly, claim 1 is deemed allowable over the prior art.

Claims 2-4 and 27 depend from claim 1, and are therefore deemed allowable at least owing to their respective dependencies from an allowable claim.

Claim 5 is similar to claim 1, but increases scanning resolution by using two separate rows of sensors to scan overlapping portions of the document. The two scans using the two different rows of sensors occur at separate moments. By increasing resolution using overlapping portions of the document scanned at separate moments, claim 5 is deemed allowable for reasons similar to those given for claim 1.

Claims 6-8 depend from claim 5, and are therefore deemed allowable at least owing to their respective dependencies from an allowable claim.

Claim 9 recites an apparatus which performs the functions for increasing scanner resolution that are deemed allowable in claim 5. Therefore, claim 9 is deemed allowable for reasons similar to those given for claim 5.

Claim 10 depends from claim 9, and is therefore deemed allowable at least owing to its dependency from an allowable claim.

Art Unit: 2625

Claim 11 recites a method which contains the same features that are deemed allowable in claim 1. Thus, claim 11 is deemed allowable for reasons similar to those given for claim 1.

Claim 12 depends from claim 11, and is therefore deemed allowable at least owing to its dependency from an allowable claim.

Claim 13 recites an apparatus which performs the method of claim 11, which has been deemed allowable. Therefore, claim 13 is deemed allowable for reasons similar to those given for claim 11.

Claim 14 depends from claim 13, and is therefore deemed allowable at least owing to its dependency from an allowable claim.

Claim 15 recites a method for increasing scanning resolution. The method of claim 15 uses a first array of sensors to scan a first and second document portion, and uses a second array of sensors to scan a second and third document portion. Thus, similar to claim 5, the method of claim 15 scans overlapping portions of the document in order to increase resolution. Thus, claim 15 is deemed allowable for reasons similar to those given for claim 5.

Claim 16 depends from claim 15, and is therefore deemed allowable at least owing to its dependency from an allowable claim.

Claim 17 recites an apparatus which performs the method of claim 15, which has been deemed allowable. Therefore claim 17 is allowable for reasons similar to those given for claim 15.

Claim 18 depends from claim 17, and is therefore deemed allowable at least owing to its dependency from an allowable claim.

Claim 19 recites a scanning device which increases the resolution by concurrently scanning multiple sets of non-adjacent portions of the document and using the sets to create higher resolution image data. Thus, claim 19 is deemed allowable for reasons similar to those given for claim 1.

Claims 20-21 depend from claim 19, and are therefore deemed allowable at least owing to their respective dependencies from an allowable claim.

Art Unit: 2625

Claim 22 recites a scanning device which performs scanning and processing similarly to the scanning and processing performed in the method of claim 15. Thus, claim 22 is deemed allowable for reasons similar to those given for claim 15.

Claims 23-26 depends from claim 22, and are therefore deemed allowable at least owing to their respective dependencies from an allowable claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Thompson whose telephone number is (571)272-7441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Edward L. Coles/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/James A Thompson/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

18 September 2008